

TOWN OF DAVIE

TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM/PHONE: 797-1030

PREPARED BY: Ken Cohen, Assistant Town Administrator

SUBJECT: Farm Park

AFFECTED DISTRICT: Town wide

TITLE OF AGENDA ITEM: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF DAVIE FLORIDA, ACCEPTING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION OF THE DAVIE FARM PARK BY PROJECT STABLE AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

REPORT IN BRIEF: The attached resolution was drafted by Councilmember Paul to acknowledge the Town of Davie and Project Stable's desire to work together in the development of the Davie Farm Park. This partnership will allow Project Stable to;

- 1) assist in developing an agricultural education program for the general public,
- 2) develop specialized farm tours,
- 3) expand their equestrian program for special needs children.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS: Purchased 54 acres on Shotgun Road to be used as the home of the Davie Farm Park.

CONCURRENCES:

FISCAL IMPACT: not applicable

Has request been budgeted? n/a

RECOMMENDATION(S): Motion to approve resolution

Attachment(s): Resolution, letter from Project Stable, Project Stable letter of support, Florida Communities Trust grant documents.

RESOLUTION _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF DAVIE, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION OF THE DAVIE FARM PARK BY PROJECT STABLE AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Town of Davie has received funding from Florida Communities Trust, Broward County Safe Parks and Land Preservation Bond Program and the Davie Open Space Bond Referendum; and

WHEREAS, this funding has allowed the Town to purchase 54 acres on Shotgun Road, presently referred to as the Davie Farm Park; and

WHEREAS, Project Stable (a 501 (c)3 Non-Profit Organization) participated in the grant process to help Davie receive the necessary grants to purchase the property; and

WHEREAS, Project Stable currently provides equestrian programs for special needs children; and

WHEREAS, Project Stable provides agricultural education to the general public with specialized farm tours; and

WHEREAS, Project Stable has a close relationship with the Broward County Farm Bureau and Broward County 4-H and pledges to work with them to successfully develop the Davie Farm Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF DAVIE, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. The Town of Davie accepts Project Stable as a partner in the development and operation of the Davie Farm Park.

SECTION 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage and adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2007

MAYOR/COUNCILMEMBER

ATTEST:

TOWN CLERK

APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2007



*A special program for
People with Special Needs*

5790 SW 130th Avenue
Southwest Ranches, FL 33330

(954) 680-8069 Office
(954) 680-2835 Fax

www.projectstable.org



PROJECT STABLE is a 501(c)3
Non-Profit Organization. All
donations are tax deductible.

Registration # SC-11125

Mr. Gary Shimun
Town Administrator
Town of Davie
6951 Orange Drive
Davie, FL 33314

Re: Davie Farm Park

Mr. Shimun:

This is a memorandum of understanding between the Town of Davie and Project Stable for the Davie Farm Park. Project Stable currently provides equestrian programs for special needs children. We also provide agricultural education to the general public with our specialized farm tour's. We would like to partner with the Town of Davie in bringing our programs to the new Davie Farm Park. We participated in the grant process to help the town receive the necessary grants to purchase the property.

We also have a relationship with the Broward County Farm Bureau and Broward County 4-H, and will work together with both of these organizations to achieve our goals at the Farm Park. We will be able to expand our programs at the Park to accommodate more of the town residents than we currently have room for.

Project Stable would like to thank the Mayor, and Members of the Town Council for having the foresight to acquire this property and provide a park that will greatly enhance the lives of today's generation and future generations to come. We look forward to working with the Town on this project

Sincerely

Sheldon McCartney
Chairman of the board



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April 7, 2005

Florida Communities Trust
Tallahassee, Florida
c/o Council Member Judy Paul
Town of Davie
6591 Orange Drive
Davie, FL 33314-3399

Members of the Florida Communities Trust:

This is a letter of support for obtaining grant funds for the future Davie Farm Park. Project Stable has been looking for a location to expand its activities and we are very excited about the possibility of the programs we can offer at the Farm Park. Project Stable is a farm and equestrian based organization that provides programs for special needs children, and agricultural education to the general public.

We have previously held an equestrian program for at risk students but this had to be discontinued due to the lack of space at our current facility. The program was extremely successful and we look forward to implementing this program again when we can expand our services at the new Farm Park.

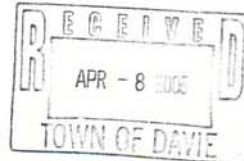
The Farm Park will also be an extremely valuable resource to teach students the importance of agriculture. We have just lost the last dairy in Southwest Broward County. We look to the Farm Park where we can have cows and various farm animals to be able to give children a hands on experience to learn about agriculture.

Project Stable has its own 4-H club and is very involved in local and state wide 4-H programs. At the Farm Park we could expand the 4-H experience to a greater number of students.

We foresee Project Stable being able to hold over 2,000 class sessions a year at the new park. We fully support the Davie Farm Park and believe it will be assets for our current community and generations to come.

Sincerely,

Sheldon McCartney
Chairman of the Board



(2) OUTDOOR RECREATION, NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES SECTION

This section identifies whether acquisition of the project site furthers the provision of outdoor recreation facilities and open space and the preservation of natural and cultural resources. All proposed recreation facilities are required to be designed with as minimal disturbance as possible to natural resources on the project site.

(a) Outdoor Recreation and Open Space

1. Will the project provide outdoor recreation areas or open space adjacent to existing publicly-owned upland areas, such as existing parks, museums, schools, libraries, or public affordable housing? (5 points)	Yes X	No
<i>If yes, identify adjacent existing publicly-owned upland area and locate the parcel on Exhibit K or other appropriate exhibit. Discuss how the adjacent parcel will be linked with the project site and how the proposed recreation or open space area will enhance the adjacent publicly-owned land.</i>		
<p>The Davie Farm Park provides for open space and outdoor recreation adjacent to Interstate I-75, which is owned and maintained by the Florida Department of Transportation. The project site also is adjacent to the N-31 canal, owned and operated by the Central Broward Water District for local flood control, as well as recreational and equestrian trails owned and maintained by the Town of Davie. These adjacent upland areas can be seen in Exhibit K. Additionally, land located two parcels to south of the project site (approximately 375 feet away) is in development as a Charter School (K-8). Moreover, the site immediately south of the Charter School parcel has recently been platted as the location of a new Broward County Schools middle school.</p>		
2. Will the project include two or more resource-based outdoor recreation facilities, such as a nature trail, picnic pavilion, fishing pier, wildlife observation platform, or canoe dock? (5 points)	Yes X	No
<i>If yes, describe what resource-based facilities will be provided. Show the proposed facilities on Exhibit K.</i>		
<p>The Davie Farm Park will include more than two resource-based outdoor recreation facilities. These amenities can be seen on Exhibit K, and include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <u>Picnicking</u>: Two pavilions will provide for sheltered picnicking and will also serve as outdoor classrooms for school groups visiting the farm park. These pavilions have been placed near the park's educational components and the playground, because these activities support and enhance each other. Additional picnic tables will be located adjacent to one of the pavilions alongside the playground.▪ <u>Wildlife and Farm Observation Platform</u>: This platform sits at a central connecting point of the various components of the park, providing a 360° elevated view of the park's open space and wildlife, including the grazing pasture, livestock, row crop farming area, educational farm area, butterfly garden, wetland and barn. The platform's location is designed to provide a comprehensive view of all the park's features, without disturbing any of the site's natural resources.▪ <u>Equestrian Activities/Horseback Riding</u>: The Farm Park includes an area dedicated for equestrian activities. A short trail links this area with the existing equestrian trail bordering the site on Shotgun Road. This section of the park will include watering troughs, hitching posts and mounting blocks so that local equestrians can utilize the park. In addition, Project Stable, a 501(c)(3) organization, will		

use this area and the barn pasture to offer equestrian classes for special needs and at risk children. These classes include riding lessons, how to care for horses and other farm animals, and farm tours.

<p>3. Will the project include two or more user-oriented outdoor recreation facilities, such as playgrounds, basketball courts, tennis courts, bocci ball courts, shuffleboard courts, or volleyball courts either on the project site or located within 1,000 feet of the project site on adjacently publicly-owned lands? (5 points)</p>	<p>Yes X</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><i>If yes, describe what user-oriented facilities will be provided. Show the proposed facilities on Exhibit K.</i></p> <p>User-oriented outdoor recreation also will be available at the Davie Farm Park. These facilities tie together the recreational and educational aspects of the park to produce an enjoyable destination for families and school groups, while still preserving the majority of the site as open space. The recreational facilities also link the park with the surrounding community, and with a Broward County park located approximately 2 miles away.</p> <p>The following user-oriented outdoor recreational facilities will be available at the Farm Park and are displayed on Exhibit K:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Playground: The Davie Farm Park includes a playground with fun, farmed-themed play equipment. An additional large open play area lies to the immediate north of the playground equipment. The farm-themed playground has been located within walking distance of the entrance to the park to accommodate local pedestrians, hikers, bikers and equestrians entering the park, yet is also within easy distance to the picnic pavilions, barn/educational center, and parking area. ▪ Recreational Trail: The recreational trail begins at the park's playground and open play field area, travels through the teaching row crop area, and ends at the observation deck. This trail will be longer than ¼ mile. Individual trail users, as well as school groups, can stop along the route to interact with the crops and learn about them. As such, the trail provides both recreational and educational opportunities. ▪ External Recreational Trail (existing): Within 120 feet of the project area lies an existing recreational trail owned and maintained by the Town of Davie. The Farm Park enhances this trail by providing a fun and educational destination for the bikers, hikers and skaters who utilize the trail every day. This trail will be connected to the park and its internal recreational trail via a crosswalk across Shotgun Road and paths within the park. Through these linkages, the park and its new recreational trail is linked with more than 150 miles of other trails throughout the Town of Davie. <p>The playground and recreational trail will be accessible from other areas of the park by ADA accessible paths. Ancillary facilities include restrooms and a parking area. Restrooms for park patrons will be located at the barn/educational center. The parking lot will be located off the main entrance road. It will hold 10-25 cars and can also accommodate school buses</p>		
<p>4. Will the project provide access facilities to an open water shoreline or beach, such as a fishing pier, observation platform, dock or dune walkover, and be managed for recreation uses? (5 points)</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>No X</p>
<p><i>If yes, describe what shoreline access facility will be provided and discuss how it will be managed for recreation use.</i></p>		